

MIS

Ages to come, that shall your bounty hear,
Will think you *mistress* of the Indies were;
Though freighter bounds your fortune did confine,
In your large heart was found a wealthy mine. *Walker.*

3. A woman skilled in any thing.
A letter desires all young wives to make themselves *mistresses* of Wingate's Arithmetick. *Addison's Spect.* N^o. 92.

4. A woman teacher.
Erect publick schools, provided with the best and ablest masters and *mistresses*. *Swift.*

5. A woman beloved and courted.
They would not suffer the prince to confer with, or very rarely to see, his *mistress*, whom they pretended he should forthwith marry. *Clarendon.*

Nice honour still engages to requite
False *mistresses* and proud with flight for flight. *Granville.*

6. A term of contemptuous address.
Look you, pale *mistress*,
Do you perceive the ghastliness of her eye? *Shakespeare.*

7. A whore; a concubine.
MISTRUST. *n. f.* [*mis* and *trust*.] Diffidence; suspicion; want of confidence.
He needs not our *mistrust*, since he delivers
Our offices, and what we have to do,
To the direction just. *Shakspeare. Macbeth.*
Not then *mistrust*, but tender love, enjoins
That I should mind thee oft; and mind thou me! *Milton.*

To *MISTRUST*. *v. a.* [*mis* and *trust*.] To suspect; to doubt; to regard with diffidence.
Will any man alledge those mentioned human infirmities, as reasons why these things should be *mistrusted* or doubted of. *Hooker, b. ii.*

By a divine instinct, mens minds *mistrust*
Ensuing danger; as by proof we see,
The waters swell before a boisterous storm. *Shakespeare.*
Fate her own book *mistrusted* at the fight,
On that side war, on this a single fight. *Cowley.*
The relation of a Spartan youth, that suffered a fox concealed under his robe to tear out his bowels, is *mistrusted* by men of business. *Brown.*

The generous train complies,
Nor fraud *mistrusts* in virtue's fair disguise. *Pope's Odyssey.*

MISTRUSTFUL. *adj.* [*mistrust* and *full*.] Diffident; doubting.
I hold it cowardice
To rest *mistrustful*, where a noble heart
Hath pawn'd an open hand in sign of love. *Shakespeare.*
Here the *mistrustful* fowl no harm suspects,
So safe are all things which our king protects. *Waller.*

MISTRUSTFULNESS. *n. f.* [*from mistrustful*.] Diffidence; doubt.
Without him I found a weakness, and a *mistrustfulness* of myself, as one strayed from his best strength, when at any time I mist him. *Sidney, b. ii.*

MISTRUSTFULLY. *adv.* [*from mistrustful*.] With suspicion; with mistrust.

MISTRUSTLESS. *adj.* [*from mistrust*.] Confident; unsuspecting.

Where he doth in stream *mistrustless* play,
Veil'd with night's robe, they stalk the shore abroad. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*

MISTY. *adj.* [*from mist*.]
1. Clouded; overpread with mists.
The morrow fair with purple beams
Dispers'd the shadows of the *misty* night. *Fairy Queen.*
Loud howling wolves arouse the jades,
That drag the tragick melancholy night;
Who with their drowsy, slow, and flagging wings
Clip dead mens graves; and from their *misty* jaws
Breathe foul contagious darkness in the air. *Shakespeare.*
Parents overprize their children, while they behold them through the vapours of affection which alter the appearance, as things seem bigger in *misty* mornings. *Watson.*
Now smoaks with show'rs the *misty* mountain ground,
And floated fields lie indistinguish'd round. *Pope.*

2. Obscure; dark; not plain.
To *MISUNDERSTAND*. *v. a.* [*mis* and *understand*.] To misconceive; to mistake.
The words of Tertullian, as they are by them alledged, are *misunderstood*. *Hooker, b. ii.*
He failed in distinguishing these two regions, both called Eden, and he altogether *misunderstood* two of the four rivers. *Raleigh's Hist. of the World.*

In vain do men take sanctuary in such *misunderstood* expressions as these; and from a false persuasion that they cannot reform their lives never go about it. *South.*
This if it be neglected, will make the reader very much mistake and *misunderstand* his meaning. *Locke.*
Were they only designed to instruct the three succeeding generations, they are in no danger of being *misunderstood*. *Addison on ancient Medals.*

MIT

The example of a good man is the best direction we can follow in the performance of our duty; the most exact rules and precepts are subject to be *misunderstood*; some at least will mistake their meaning. *Rogers's Sermons.*

MISUNDERSTANDING. *n. f.* [*from misunderstand*.]
1. Difference; disagreement.
There is a great *misunderstanding* betwixt the corpulent philosophers and the chemists. *Boyle.*
Servants mistake, and sometimes occasion *misunderstandings* among friends. *Swift's Miscel.*

2. Error; misconception.
Sever the construction of the injury from the point of contempt, imputing it to *misunderstanding* or fear. *Bacon.*

MISUSE. *n. f.* [*from misuse*.]
1. Abuse; ill use.
2. Bad treatment.
To *MISUSE*. *v. a.* [*misuse*, Fr. *mis* and *use*.] To treat or use improperly; to abuse.
You *misuse* the reverence of your place,
As a false favourite doth his prince's name
In deeds dishon'able. *Shakspeare. Henry IV.*
It hath been their custom shamefully to *misuse* the fervent zeal of men to religious arms, by converting the monies that have been levied for such wars to their own services. *Raleigh.*
Bacchus, that first from out the purple grape
Crush'd the sweet poison of *misused* wine. *Milton.*
Machiavel makes it appear, that the weakness of Italy, which was once so strong, was caused by the corrupt practices of the papacy, in depraving and *misusing* religion. *South's Sermons.*

MISUSE. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.] Bad use; bad treatment.
Upon whose dead corpse there was such *misuse*,
Such beauly, shameless transformation,
By those Wellswomen done, as may not be
Without much shame retold. *Shakspeare. Henry IV.*
How much names taken for things mislead the understanding, the attentive reading of philosophical writers would discover, and that in words little suspected of any such *misuse*. *Lact.*

We have reason to humble ourselves before God by fasting and prayer, lest he should punish the *misuse* of our mercies, by stopping the course of them. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

To *MISUSE*. *v. n.* [*mis* and *use*.] To misjudge; to distrust.
Latter times things more unknown shall show,
Why then should wisdom man so much *misuse*. *Fa. 20.*

To *MISUSE*. *v. n.* [*mis* and *use*.] To go wrong.
Every thing begun with reason,
Will come by ready means unto his end:
But things misconfelled must needs *misuse*. *Haberd.*
In this maze still wand'ring and *misusing*,
For heaven decreed to conceal the same,
To make the miscreant more to feel his shame. *Fairfax.*

MISX. *n. f.* A kind of mineral.
Misy contains no cupreous vitriol but only that of iron: it is a very beautiful mineral, of a fine bright yellow colour, and of a loose and friable structure, and much resembles the golden maracites. *Hill's Mat. Med.*

MITE. *n. f.* [*mite*, French; *mit*, Dutch; *mit*, Lat.]
1. A small insect found in cheese or corn; a weevil.
Virginity breeds *mites*, much like a cheese, consumes itself to the very paring, and so dies with feeding its own stomach. *Shakespeare's All's well that ends well.*

The polish'd glass, whose small convex
Enlarges to ten millions of degrees,
The *mite* invisible else, of nature's hand
Least animal. *Philips.*
The idea of two is as distinct from the idea of three, as the magnitude of the whole earth is from that of a *mite*. *Lact.*

2. The twentieth part of a grain.
The Seville piece of eight contains thirteen pennyweight twenty-one grains and fifteen *mites*, of which there are twenty in the grain, of sterling silver, and is in value forty-three English pence and eleven hundredths of a penny. *Arbutnot.*

3. Any thing proverbially small; the third part of a farthing.
Though any man's corn they do bite,
They will not allow him a *mite*. *Tupper's Husb.*
Are you defrauded, when he feeds the poor,
Our *mite* decreases nothing of your store. *Dryden.*
Did I e'er my *mite* withhold
From the impotent and old. *Swift's Miscel.*

4. A small particle.
Put blue-bottles into an ant-hill they will be stained with red, because the ants thrust in their fangs, and infill into them a small *mite* of their stinging liquor, which hath the same effect as oil of vitriol. *Ray on Creation.*

MITE. *n. f.* A plant.
The *mitella* hath a perennial root; the cup of the flower consists of one leaf, and is divided into five parts; the flower consists of five leaves, which expand in form of a rose; the ovary

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ovary becomes a roundish fruit, which terminates in a point, gaping at the top, in form of a bishop's mitre, and full of roundish seeds. *Miller.*

MITHRIDATE. *n. f.* [*mithridate*, Fr.]
Mithridate is one of the capital medicines of the shops, consisting of a great number of ingredients, and has its name from its inventor Mithridates, king of Pontus. *Quincy.*

But you of learning and religion,
And virtue, and such ingredients, have made
A *mithridate*, whose operation
Keeps off, or cures, what can be done or said. *Donne.*

MITHRIDATE. *n. f.* [*mithridate*, Latin.]
The flower of the *mithridate* consists of four leaves placed in form of a cross, out of whose cup rises the pointal, which afterward becomes a smooth roundish fruit, having commonly a leafy border, and slit on the upper side, divided into two cells by an intermediate partition placed obliquely with respect to the valves, and furnished with smooth roundish seeds; to which may be added the undivided leaves, which distinguish it from cresses. *Miller.*

MITIGANT. *adj.* [*mitigans*, Lat.] Lenient; lenitive.
To *MITIGATE*. *v. a.* [*mitigo*, Lat. *mitiger*, Fr.]
1. To soften; to make less rigorous.
We could greatly wish, that the rigour of their opinion were allayed and *mitigated*. *Hooker, b. v.*

2. To alleviate; to make mild; to assuage.
Mithras are master'd by advice discreet,
And counsel *mitigates* the greatest smart. *Fairy Queen.*
All it can do is, to devise how that which must be endured may be *mitigated*, and the inconveniences thereof counter-weighed as near as may be, that, when the best things are not possible, the best may be made of those that are. *Hooker.*

3. To mollify; to make less severe.
I undertook
Before thee: and, not repenting, this obtain
Of right, that I may *mitigate* their doom,
On me deriv'd. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. x.*

4. To cool; to moderate.
A man has frequent opportunity of *mitigating* the fierceness of a party, of softening the envious, quieting the angry, and rectifying the prejudiced. *Addison's Spectator.*

MITIGATION. *n. f.* [*mitigatio*, Lat. *mitigatio*, Fr. from *mitigare*.] Abatement of any thing penal, harsh, or painful.
The king would not have one penny abated of that granted to him by parliament, because it might encourage other countries to pray the like release or *mitigation*. *Bacon.*
They caused divers subjects to be indicted of sundry crimes; and when the bills were found they committed them, and suffered them to languish long in prison, to extort from them great fines and ransoms, which they termed compositions and *mitigations*. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

MITRE. *n. f.* [*mitre*, Fr. *mitra*, Latin.]
1. An ornament for the head.
Nor Pantheus, these, thy *mitre* nor the bands
Of awful Phœbus, sav'd from impious hands. *Dryden.*

2. A kind of episcopal crown.
Bishopricks or burning, *mitres* or faggots, have been the rewards of different persons, according as they pronounced these consecrated syllables, or not. *Watts.*

MITRE. *n. f.* [*mitre*, Fr. from *mitra*.] A kind of joining two boards together. *Miller.*

MITRE. *adj.* [*mitre*, Fr. from *mitra*.] Adorned with a mitre.
Shall the loud herald our success relate,
Or *mitred* priest appoint the solemn day? *Prior.*
Mitred abbots, among us, were those that were exempt from the diocesan jurisdiction, as having within their own precincts episcopal authority, and being lords in parliament were called abbots sovereign. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

MITTENT. *adj.* [*mittens*, Lat.] Sending forth; emitting.
The fluxion proceedeth from humours peccant in quantity or quality, thrust forth by the part *mittent* upon the inferior weak parts. *Wijeman's Surgery.*

MITTENS. *n. f.* [*mitaines*, French.]
1. Coarse gloves for the Winter.
December must be exprest with a horrid aspect, as also January clad in Irish rug, holding in furred *mittens* the sign of Capricorn. *Peacocks on Drawing.*

2. Gloves that cover the arm without covering the fingers.
3. To handle one without *mittens*. To use one roughly. A low phrase. *Ains.*

MITTIMUS. [*Latin*.] A warrant by which a justice commits an offender to prison.
To *MIX*. *v. a.* [*mix*, Dutch; *mixeo*, Latin.]
1. To unite different bodies into one mass; to put various ingredients together.
Ephraim hath *mixed* himself among the people. *Hos. vii. 8.*
A *mixed* multitude went up with them, and flocks and herds. *Exod. xii. 38.*
He sent out of his mouth a blast of fire, and out of his spurs and tempests; and they were all *mixed* together. *2 Esdr.*

2. To form of different faiths.

MOB

I have chosen an argument, *mixt* of religious and civil considerations; and likewise *mixt* between contemplative and active. *Bacon's holy War.*

3. To join; to mingle.
Brothers, you *mix* your sadness with some fear;
This is the English not the Turkish court. *Shakespeare.*

MIXEN. *n. f.* [*mixen*, Saxon.] A dunghill; a laystall.

MIXION. *n. f.* [*mixture*, Fr. from *mix*.] Mixture; confusion of one body with another.
Others perceiving this rule to fall short, have pieced it out by the *mixture* of vacuity among bodies, believing it is that which makes one rarer than another. *Digby on Bodies.*
Though we want a proper name, yet are they not to be lightly past over as elementary or subterraneous *mixtions*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. ii.*

MIXTLY. *adv.* [*from mix*.] With coalition of different parts into one.

MIXTURE. *n. f.* [*mixture*, Latin.]
1. The act of mixing; the state of being mixed.
O happy *mixture*, wherein things contrary do so qualify and correct the one the danger of the other's excess, that neither boldness can make us presume, as well as we are kept under with the sense of our own wretchedness; nor, while we trust in the mercy of God through Christ Jesus, fear be able to tyrannize over us! *Hooker, b. v.*
Those liquors are expelled out of the body which, by their *mixture*, convert the aliment into an animal liquid. *Arbutnot.*
I, by baleful furies led,
With monstrous *mixture* stain'd my mother's bed. *Pope.*

2. A mass formed by mingled ingredients.
Come vial—What if this *mixture* do not work at all?
Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

3. That which is added and mixed.
Neither can God himself be otherwise understood, than as a mind free and disentangled from all corporal *mixtures*, perceiving and moving all things. *Stillingfleet.*
Cicero doubts whether it were possible for a community to exist, that had not a prevailing *mixture* of piety in its constitution. *Addison's Freeholder, N^o. 29.*
While we live in this world, where good and bad men are blended together, and where there is also a *mixture* of good and evil wisely distributed by God, to serve the ends of his providence. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

MIZMAZE. *n. f.* [A cant word, formed from *maze* by reduplication.] A maze; a labyrinth.
Those who are accustomed to reason have got the true key of books, and the clue to lead them through the *mizmaze* of variety of opinions and authors to truth. *Locke.*

MIZZEN. *n. f.* [*mizzen*, Dutch.]
The *mizzen* is a mast in the stern or back back of a ship: in some large ships there are two such masts, that standing next the main mast is called the main *mizzen*, and the other near the poop the bonaventure *mizzen*: the length of a *mizzen* mast is half that of the main mast, or the height of it is the same with that of the maintop mast from the quarter-deck, and the length of the *mizzen* topmast is half that. *Bail.*
A commander at sea had his leg fractured by the fall of his *mizzen* topmast. *Wijeman's Surgery.*

MIZZY. *n. f.* A bog; a quagmire.

MNEMONICKS. *n. f.* [*mnemonics*.] The act of memory.

MO. *adj.* [*ma*, Saxon; *mae*, Scottish.] Making greater number; more.
Calliope and mufes mo,
Soon as your oaken pipe begins to found
Their ivory lutes lay by.
With oxbows and oxyokes, with other things mo,
For oxtrem and horseteem in plough for to go. *Tusser.*

MO. *adv.* Further; longer.
Sing no more ditties, sing no mo
Of dumps so dull and heavy;
The frauds of men were ever so,
Since Summer was first leafy. *Shakespeare.*

To *MOAN*. *v. a.* [*from manan*, Saxon, to grieve.] To lament; to deplore.
To *MOAN*. *v. n.* To grieve; to make lamentation.
The generous band redressive search'd
Into the horrors of the gloomy jail,
Unpitied and unheard, where misery means. *Thomson.*

MOAN. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.] Lamentation; audible sorrow; grief exprest in words or cries.
I have disabled mine estate,
By shewing something a more swelling port,
Than my faint means would grant continuance;
Nor do I now make *moan* to be abridg'd
From such a noble rate. *Shakspeare. Merchant of Venice.*
The fresh stream ran by her, and murmur'd her *moans*;
The salt tears fell from her, and fo'rd'ned the stones. *Shak.*
Sullen *moans*,
Hollow groans,
And cries of tortur'd ghosts. *Pope's St. Cecilia.*

MOAT. *n. f.* [*motte*, French, a mound; *mota*, low Latin.] A canal of water round a house or castle for defence.